

In the Claims

Claims 1 - 8 Cancelled

9. (Currently Amended) An isolated *Lawsonia intracellularis* outer membrane protein, said protein comprising ~~an amino acid sequence homologous to SEQ ID NO: 2,~~ being immunoreactive with antisera to SEQ ID NO: 2 and having a molecular weight of about 37 kD, ~~said Outer Membrane Protein being obtainable by a process comprising the steps of~~

a) ~~subjecting an outer membrane preparation to SDS PAGE and~~

b) ~~excision of the 19 or 21-37 kD band from the gel, and an immunogenic fragment of said protein.~~

Claims 10 - 12 Cancelled

13. (Previously presented) The *Lawsonia intracellularis* Outer Membrane Protein according to claim 9, comprising SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claims 14 - 17 Cancelled

18. (Previously presented) An immunogenic composition comprising an immunogenically effective amount of a protein according to claim 9, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

19. (Currently amended) An immunogenic composition according to claim 18, ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ comprising an adjuvant.

20. (Currently amended) The immunogenic composition according to claim 18, ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ an additional comprising at least one antigen in addition to the *Lawsonia intracellularis* outer membrane protein derived from a virus or micro-organism pathogenic to pigs or genetic information encoding said antigen.

21. (Currently amended) The immunogenic composition according to claim 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said virus or micro-organism pathogenic to pigs is selected from the group consisting of Pseudorabies virus, Porcine influenza virus, Porcine parvo virus, Transmissible gastro-enteritis virus, Rotavirus, *Escherichia coli*, *Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae*, *Bordetella bronchiseptica*, *Salmonella choleraesuis*, *Haemophilus parasuis*, *Pasteurella multocida*, *Streptococcus suis*, *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* and *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae*.

Claims 22 - 37 Cancelled

Attorney Docket Number 2000.605 US

38. (Previously presented) An immunogenic composition for combating *Lawsonia intracellularis* infection comprising a protein according to claim 9.